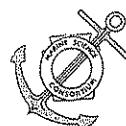


Attention Parents and Guardians of future MSC participants:



We are so pleased that your child will be participating in our program. We have included a "What to bring list" to aid in packing. Please be sure that your child has all of the items on the 'Essentials' list. This is a great experience for them if they are well prepared.

Here are some answers to commonly asked questions about us. If you have other questions, do not hesitate to call us, ask your group's leader who may have previously attended our programs, or check out our website where there is more program information.

1. What is the Marine Science Consortium (MSC)?

ANS: We are a non-profit, educational institution owned by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. We are governed by the Presidents of the member universities. The MSC was formed in 1968 to promote education and research in the marine and environmental sciences and offer programs which range from elementary to university levels.

2. How do I contact/get information about the MSC?

ANS: There are several ways to contact us:

P: 757-824-5636, F: 757-824-5638, Email: [mscva@mscconsortium.org](mailto:mscva@mscconsortium.org), Website: [www.mscconsortium.org](http://www.mscconsortium.org)

3. Where is the MSC located?

ANS: We are located on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, about 5 miles south of the Maryland/Virginia border. We neighbor Chincoteague and Assateague Islands and the NASA Wallops Flight Facility.

4. How much money should my child bring on the trip?

ANS: All expenses during the program are covered in the student fee. We do have a Ship's Store on campus that has MSC apparel and a variety of other souvenirs. Check with your group's leader to see if there are travel expenses or other activities planned for Free Night that may involve money.

5. How can I contact my son/daughter while they are at the MSC?

ANS: Our office is open from 8am-4:30pm Monday thru Friday. You can call and leave a message with the office staff and your child can return your call when they return from field trips. If it is a non-office hours emergency, you can call our emergency cell phone which is carried by a staff member from 4:30pm thru 8am. The staff member on call can locate your child and let you speak directly to them. The emergency number is 757-894-7708. Cell phone service can be intermittent because we are located next to the NASA base but Verizon service seems to work the best.

You should have also received a Health Record/Participation agreement to fill out for your child. Be sure to note any health conditions or concerns on this sheet so that our staff can do our best to accommodate your child. Also on this form is a section to permit the use of participant photographs for MSC advertising purposes. Please indicate whether we can use pictures of your child to promote our programs. There are two sides to this health form that must be filled out and signed or your child will be unable to participate in our programs.

We look forward to working with your son or daughter and hope that they enjoy their time with us.

Thank you,

Lauren Hvorecny

Programs Manager



## What to Bring On Your Trip

*Please be sure that the participant is adequately prepared for their trip. We have seen students unhappy in the field because they were not wearing appropriate clothing. Participants should be prepared to spend at least two half-day sessions on wet trips.*

### Essential Items

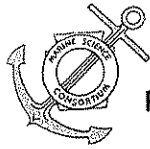
- ☐ Shoes (4+ total)
  - 2 pairs of sneakers for wet/muddy trips
  - 1 pair for dry trips
  - 1 pair of sandals
- ☐ Long pants (2 total)
  - 1+ for wet/muddy trips
  - 1 for dry trips
- ☐ Shorts (4 total)
  - 2 for wet/muddy trips
  - 2+ for dry trips
- ☐ T-shirts (4 total)
  - 2 for wet/muddy trips
  - 2+ for dry trips
- ☐ Cold weather clothing
  - (sweatshirts, jackets)
- ☐ Bathing suits (2 total)
  - 1 for muddy trips
  - 1 for wet trips
- ☐ Extra towel for wet trips
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Dry clothes for evening activities
- ☐ Sleeping bag or sheets + blanket, pillow
- ☐ Bath towel, soap, personal toiletries
- ☐ Refillable water bottle
- ☐ Raingear
- ☐ Pencil/pen
- ☐ Sunglasses/Hat
- ☐ Insect repellent



### Optional Items

- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Robe
- ☐ Camera
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Alarm Clock
- ☐ Shower shoes
- ☐ Cards, books → free time
- ☐ Money for souvenirs





## **THE MARINE SCIENCE CONSORTIUM PRECOLLEGE PROGRAM RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Marine Science Consortium is an academic community dedicated to the advancement of learning. Due to the intense nature of the educational process, the Consortium is committed to a philosophy of mutual tolerance and respect. All students admitted to Consortium programs should fully understand the responsibility thus placed upon them.

Students, faculty, and staff both on and off Consortium premises are subject to the same Federal, State, and Municipal laws as other citizens. The proper authorities may prosecute a student who violates a Federal, State, or Municipal law. A student who violates Consortium regulations is subject to disciplinary action and will be billed for damages.

The rules and regulations, which follow, have been adopted in order to assure the safety and privacy of all participants in the various programs affected by The Marine Science Consortium.

1. Use of MSC vehicles or equipment must be authorized.
2. All biological samples are to remain in the laboratory.
3. Each student is responsible for maintaining a satisfactory room and will be charged for damages to MSC property. Perishables are prohibited in dormitory areas.
4. Please keep sand out of tubs and shower drains. Use outside hoses to rinse off yourselves and clothing.
5. MSC is a drug, alcohol and tobacco free campus. Therefore, these substances are prohibited. Students are subject to dismissal without refund for violation of this rule.
6. Use of controlled drugs without medical prescription or under a doctor's supervision is prohibited. Use of, possession of, or the distribution of marijuana or similar drugs are subject to Federal and State prosecution.

7. Quiet hours are for the benefit of all station residents and extend from 11:00pm to 7:00am. Students should be in their rooms and music equipment should be turned down during these hours. An appropriate educational climate is expected at all times.
8. No inter-visitation between male and female dormitories or with college dormitories and/or college recreation areas is permitted.
9. Shoes and shirts must be worn at all times. Swim suits or muddy clothes are not permitted in the station cafeteria.
10. Please follow all safety and traffic rules and make a special effort to be safety conscious. The use of automobiles by individual students is prohibited during the program.
11. The use of fireworks on the grounds of the Wallops Island Marine Science Consortium is prohibited.
12. No overnight visitors are allowed on station without permission from the Programs Manager. Students and visitors are not allowed to bring pets on the station.
13. Do not enter any building other than buildings indicated by instructors. Entrance into any other building will be considered breaking and entering.

## MSC Precollege FAQs

1. How many participants constitute "one group"?

Ans: One group is 21 students and 2 chaperons. The group of 23 total participants is lead by one MSC staff instructor and is a good group size for field and laboratory activities.

2. What are the dormitory facilities like?

ANS: The new residence hall is two stories tall and is separated into two "wings" by a communal lounge. Each "wing" is comprised of 8 independent units, 4 units on the first floor, 4 units on the second floor. Each unit houses 12 students of the same gender (3 rooms each with a 4 person capacity) and a 2 person capacity chaperon room. There are 4 sinks, 4 showers, and 4 toilets in each unit. There is also air conditioning in the facility.

3. What is a chaperon?

ANS: A chaperone is usually a parent, teacher, or other school staff member that accompanies the group on their field trip to the MSC. The chaperons are expected to participate in the program, be with the students at all times, and help to maintain group control.

4. How many chaperons do I need to bring with my group?

ANS: There must be one chaperon of the same gender per dorm. (e.g. 13 female students and 9 male students will require 2 female adult chaperons and 1 male adult chaperon).

5. Do I have to bring my own bedding?

ANS: Yes, each participant must bring their own bedding and toiletries.

6. What happens during stormy/rainy weather?

ANS: During inclement weather, we have field trips or activities to do with the students indoors. If boat trips are postponed, we will do our best to reschedule the trip during your program. If we know in advance that there is going to be a storm, we will work with your group to reschedule your trip. If you know in advance that a storm in our area is possible, please give us a call to discuss program options.

7. How can I contact my son/daughter while they are at the MSC?

ANS: Our office is open from 8am-4:30pm Monday thru Friday. You can call and leave a message with the office staff and your child can return your call when they return from field trips. If it is a non-office hour emergency, you can call our emergency cell phone which is carried by a staff member from 4:30pm thru 8am. The staff member on call can locate your child and let you speak directly to them. The emergency number is 757-894-7708.

8. Should I send a cell phone with my child?

ANS: We do not encourage the use of cell phones on campus for a number of reasons. Cell phones very easily are broken, lost, or dropped in the water. Because of our close proximity to the NASA base, cell signal can be intermittent. Verizon seems to have the best service in this area. There are other methods of contacting child while on station. See # 7.

9. Am I allowed to bring organisms home from our trip?

ANS: If your school would like to take organisms to study at school, you must submit an "Organism Request" form to the Programs Manager PRIOR to your trip. You can obtain this form by contacting our office. You must bring your own containers and battery operated aerators to transport the organisms home or you will not be permitted to take organisms with you.

10. What time should my group arrive at the MSC?

ANS: Groups usually arrive in the afternoon to allow time for participants to get settled in the dorms prior to starting the program.

11. What are precollege meal times?

ANS: Breakfast - 8:00am, Lunch – 12:30pm, Dinner – 5:15pm

## STATEMENT OF HEALTH RECORD

This form need **not** be authorized out by a physician.

Name:	Sex: M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address:		
Date of Birth:	Weight:	Height:
Emergency Contact:	Relationship:	
Phone (H):	Phone(W):	
Second Contact:	Relationship:	
Phone (H):	Phone(W):	
Family Physician:	Phone:	
Address:		
Medical/Health Insurance Co.:	ID No.:	
Primary Card Holders Name:	DOB:	
<b>Health History</b>		
Allergies (e.g. Insects, medications)/Dietary Restrictions(e.g. wheat, vegetarian):		

All current medications taken and conditions requiring medication (e.g. Diabetes, epilepsy, ADD):				
Recent injuries, illnesses, operations:				
Other physical disabilities or chronic conditions (e.g., Poor eyes, hearing, phobias):				
Do you wear contacts?      YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		Do you wear glasses?      YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
MSC is permitted to use photos of my child for MSC advertisement purposes: YES <input type="checkbox"/> YES (w/o name) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>				
Swimming ability <i>(please check):</i>	Non swimmer  <input type="checkbox"/>	Beginner  <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate  <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced  <input type="checkbox"/>
Signature:			Date:	
<b>(Parent or guardian of minor applicant if under eighteen)</b>  <b>I declare the statements on this form to be true.</b>				

Attach any additional medical conditions or concerns that the Marine Science Consortium, Inc. should know.



**PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, INDEMNIFICATION, AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK  
FOR MINORS**

(Must be completed by parent or legal guardian for participants under the age of 18)

I acknowledge that my child's participation in \_\_\_\_\_

Activities include known and unanticipated risks, which could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to my child, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

In consideration of \_\_\_\_\_ (print minor's name) ("Minor") being permitted by The Marine Science Consortium, Inc., (hereinafter collectively referred to as MSC), to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless MSC from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action which are brought by myself, and/or on behalf of the Minor against MSC, and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor.

I hereby represent that the minor is in good health, that there are no special problems associated with the care of the minor, and that I have adequately informed MSC personnel of any special instructions regarding the minor. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage the minor may suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself.

I authorize MSC personnel to call for medical care for the minor or to transport the minor to a medical facility or hospital if, in the opinion of such personnel, the minor needs medical attention. I further authorize appropriate personnel to render such medical treatment as is necessary for the health of the minor, in their professional opinion. I agree that once the minor is in the care of medical personnel or a medical facility, MSC, shall have no further responsibility for the minor and I agree to pay all costs associated with such medical care and transportation.

Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance Provider: \_\_\_\_\_

Permission Slip

Wallops Island Field Trip

My child, \_\_\_\_\_, is permitted to attend the Wallops Island Field Trip from May 19 – May 22, 2010. Because it is a school function, I understand that he/she must follow the school rules and the rules of the Marine Science Consortium. He/She must cooperate with the chaperones, the bus driver, and the MSC personnel. Chaperones have my permission to check baggage, packages, purses, etc.

In the event that I have to be contacted during this field trip at any time during the day or night, I can be reached at the following phone numbers:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*Please return all forms by March 31, 2010